

## Bedford Heights Update



**Fletcher D. Berger**  
Mayor/Safety Dir. of  
Bedford Heights

Bedford Heights residents and business leaders are cordially invited to attend my annual State of the City address. The address is scheduled for Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Bedford Heights Community Center. I will share with you news and information regarding our city's finances, completed and scheduled projects, as well as my vision for the future of Bedford Heights. If you plan to attend, please contact Renee in my office (440-786-3214) so that we can ensure that there will be sufficient seating for all.

**Employment Opportunities:** The job market in Bedford Heights is on the rise. We received and posted 14 new job opportunities from six local businesses looking to hire qualified candidates the week of February 16<sup>th</sup> on our website. For more information about what jobs may be available, visit our website ([www.bedfordheights.gov/jobs-listing](http://www.bedfordheights.gov/jobs-listing)).

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, communities across the state of Ohio will test their tornado warning siren systems. In addition, an Emergency Alert System (EAS) warning message will be broadcast. We encourage all communities with sirens to participate in this annual event by conducting their own tornado drills and reviewing their emergency plans. March 1<sup>st</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> is Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, and the Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management urges everyone to be prepared for the upcoming severe weather season in the United States: flooding, tornadoes, and super cell thunderstorms with dangerously large hail and very high winds. Here are important severe-weather safety facts and tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe. **TORNADOES** cause an average of 62 deaths and 1,500 injuries per year in the United States. They can produce winds that reach 250+ miles per hour, and can be as large as one mile wide and stay on the ground for 50 miles. **THUNDERSTORMS** can occur frequently in the spring and summer and can include high winds of over 125 miles per hour. Hail can also occur and can range from pea-sized to larger than a softball. Every thunderstorm produces lightning, and lightning results in an average of 55-60 deaths and 300 injuries per year in the United States. Remember, if thunder roars, go indoors. **FLASH FLOODING** is the number one weather-related cause of death, resulting in an average of 70+ deaths per year in the United States. Flash floods can occur suddenly. Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice and head for higher ground when a flood warning is issued. Learn your community's warning signals and evacuation plans. Meet with your family to create a plan. Select emergency meet-up locations: a spot outside your home and a location away from your neighborhood in case you can't return home. Practice your plan.

We want to ensure that everyone who owns or occupies a home in Bedford Heights has an understanding of and access to the basic standards of residential occupancy. Under Chapters 1377, 1387 and 1393 (as well as others) of the Bedford Heights Codified Ordinances residents, new and old, will be able to comply with the rules, laws, and regulations governing our community. You can visit our website ([www.bedfordheights.gov](http://www.bedfordheights.gov)) and click on the Codified Ordinance link to find what you are looking for.

The City of Bedford Heights owns two lots that are **"For Sale."** One of the vacant lots is located at 5525 Columbia Road (*corner of Columbia and Rockside Roads*). The other vacant lot is located on Rockside Road at the intersection of Meadow Lane and Rockside Road. If you are interested in purchasing a lot for the construction a new home, please contact our Housing Coordinator Cheryl Dillingham (440-786-3244).

The Bedford Heights Scholarship Awards Committee is accepting applications from graduating seniors who reside in the City of Bedford Heights. Up to 6 individual scholarships in the amount of \$500 each will be awarded to outstanding students who will be attending an accredited college, university or trade school in the fall of 2015.

Remember to spring ahead by moving your clocks forward one hour on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 a.m.

The next FREE Mobile Food Pantry is scheduled for Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

To stay in touch with what's going on in Bedford Heights, visit our website ([www.bedfordheights.gov](http://www.bedfordheights.gov)), our facebook page, our city calendar (*on our website*) or tune in to BHTV Cable Channel 20. We want to ensure that you're informed, involved and aware.